



THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

GAINSBOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1973

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Assistant Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

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The Cedars,
Bigby Road,
Brigg,
Sth. Humberside.

August, 1974.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During 1973 there were eighteen more live births in Gainsborough Rural District than in the previous year, and the illegitimacy rate rose from 4 per cent to 7 per cent. Clearly our efforts to publicise the family planning services and promote their use has not been as successful as one would wish, and further efforts are necessary. The estimated mid-year population on which calculation of rates is based has risen from 12,400 to 13,670 and consequently the birth rate per thousand population has not changed appreciably. However, as the population had previously been assessed as falling this sudden rise should be viewed with some scepticism.

The infant mortality rate was unusually high, 31 per thousand compared with 17 per thousand in England and Wales. The excess in infant deaths was due to respiratory infections, which accounted for 3 deaths of babies aged between 8 and 40 weeks. The fourth death among older babies was attributed at inquest to accidental suffocation due to turning face down on to the pillow. But for these deaths of older children the infant mortality statistics would have been satisfactory.

Although there were 8 more deaths than in the previous year the larger population base on which the rate is calculated resulted in the "rate" falling. The validity of this rate is dependant on the accuracy of the estimate of mid-year population, however, and it cannot therefore be assumed that there has in fact been a fall in rate.

Compared with 1972 there were four more deaths of persons in the age range 45-64 yrs., due mainly to an increase from 7 to 12 in deaths from malignant disease. The pattern of deaths was however very similar to that experienced in previous years, and the numbers attributable to individual causes were too small to warrant analysis.

Despite the availability of a vaccine there was a disappointing resurgence in measles in 1973. Twenty-two of the 43 notified cases were children over the age of 5, and it may be that many of them may have missed the opportunity to be vaccinated as the vaccine only came into use in 1968.

Progress with slum clearance during the year was slow, but probably due to the availability of 75% grants, there was a rise in the number of grant aided improvements from 89 in 1972 to 126 in 1973. Progress with the sewerage of the district was maintained, the schemes for Northorpe and Laughton being completed and good progress was made at Torksey and Torksey Lock.

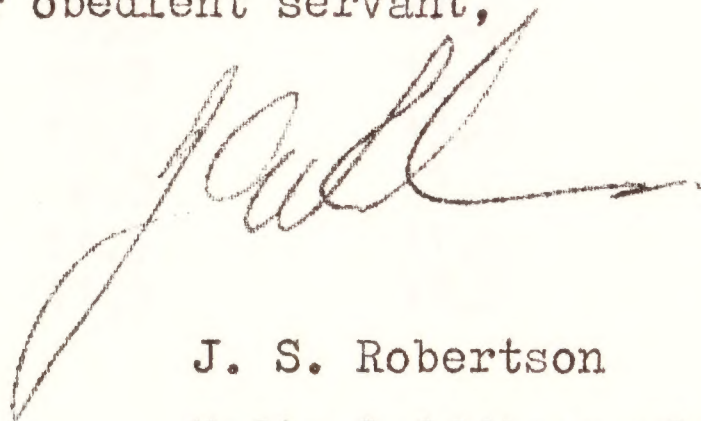
It is always sad to reach the end of an era, and many will grieve the passing of small authorities. Although my association with Gainsborough Rural District was short, I shall miss the friendly atmosphere of your meetings and the helpful attitudes of your staff.

I am most grateful to you for the support and encouragement you have given me in the past, and hope that the district fares well in the future, when it becomes a part of the new West Lindsey District.

I am indebted to Mr. Archer and to Mr. Clixby for their help during the past few years, and particularly for their work during 1973. As usual the details have been tabulated in the latter pages of this report. I am sure that you will join me in wishing them well in their new posts following reorganisation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. S. Robertson', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

J. S. Robertson
Medical Officer of Health.

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VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
Mid-year Population	12,600	12,400	13,670
Live Births	242	205	223
Stillbirths	1	2	-
Infant deaths under 4 weeks of age	2	2	3
Total Deaths	140	148	156

	<u>Legitimate</u>			<u>Illegitimate</u>			<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Live Births	102	106	208	7	8	15	223
Stillbirths	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infant deaths under 1 year	3	3	6	-	1	1	7
Infant deaths under 4 wks.	1	1	2	-	1	1	3
Infant deaths under 1 week	1	1	2	-	1	1	3

	<u>Gainsborough R.D.</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
Crude Birth Rate	16.5	16.3
Corrected Birth Rate*	16.0	16.6
Stillbirth Rate	10.0	-
Infant Mortality Rate	20.0	31.0
Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate	15.0	29.0
Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate	111.0	67.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate	10.0	13.0
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate	10.0	13.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate	19.0	13.0
Illegitimacy Rate	4.0	7.0
Crude Death Rate	11.9	11.4
Corrected Death Rate*	11.7	12.0

* These corrections take account of the different proportions of old and young people in the area, and make the resulting rate comparable with that for England and Wales. Thus, a resort to which old people retire would have a high crude rate but low comparability factor would correct the false impression that this was an unhealthy area. The comparability factor for births in this area is 1.02 and for deaths 1.05.

Causes of Death in the District during the year 1973
(Registrar General's Figures)

Causes of Death	0-	1-	15-	25-	45-	65+	Total	
							M	F
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Leukaemia	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	-	-	1	-	1	5	3	4
Diabetes Mellitus	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Hypertensive Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	1	7	3	5
Ischaemic Heart Disease	-	-	-	1	14	34	35	14
Other Forms of Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	-	-	-	1	-	22	7	16
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2
Pneumonia	3	-	-	-	2	8	7	6
Bronchitis and Emphysema	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	-
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Congenital Anomalies	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
All Other Accidents	1	-	-	-	-	3	3	1
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	-
TOTAL:	7	1	2	4	36	106	82	74

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES
BY AGE GROUPS

DISEASES	0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5+	10+	25+	A.U.	TOTAL
Measles	2	2	3	4	9	21	-	1	1	43
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	5
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total:	2	2	3	4	10	22	4	4	1	52

WATER SUPPLYReports on samples of water taken by the Lincoln and District Water Board(1) Lea Road No. 2 Borehole

Chemical Analysis in mg./l.

Appearance - Clear and Bright

Colour ($^{\circ}$ Hazen)	-	Turbidity (Silica Scale)	0.8
Odour & Taste - Nothing significant		Conductivity at 20° (Recip. Megohms)	700
Total Dissolved Solids (180°)	-	pH	7.70
Total Hardness as CaCO_3	354	Alkalinity as CaCO_3	172
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO_3	182	Calcium Hardness as CaCO_3	-
Magnesium Hardness as CaCO_3	-	Free Carbon Dioxide as CO_2	7.0
Chloride as Cl	19.5	Fluoride as F	0.07
Phosphate as PO_4	-	Silica as SiO_2	-
Sulphate as SO_4	185		
Free Ammoniacal Nitrogen as N	0.03	Albuminoid Nitrogen as N	< 0.01
Nitrate Nitrogen as N	< 0.5	Nitrite Nitrogen as N	-
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate (4 hour at 27°)			Nil
Iron as Fe	-	Manganese as Mn	-
Potassium as K	-	Sodium as Na	-
Heavy metals (copper, lead and zinc)			-
Other Parameters	-		

(2) Glenthams Pumping Station

Chemical Analysis in mg./l.

Appearance - Clear and Bright

Colour ($^{\circ}$ Hazen)	-	Turbidity (Silica Scale)	0.4
Odour & Taste - Slight musty odour		Conductivity at 20° (Recip. Megohms)	920
Total Dissolved Solids (180°)	-	pH	7.31
Total Hardness as CaCO_3	488	Alkalinity as CaCO_3	286
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO_3	202	Calcium Hardness as CaCO_3	-
Magnesium Hardness as CaCO_3	-	Free Carbon Dioxide as CO_2	29
Chloride as Cl	41.0	Fluoride as F	0.18
Phosphate as PO_4	-	Silica as SiO_2	-
Sulphate as SO_4	186		
Free Ammoniacal Nitrogen as N	0.06	Albuminoid Nitrogen as N	0.03
Nitrate Nitrogen as N	1.3	Nitrite Nitrogen as N	-
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate (4 hour at 27°)			0.12
Iron as Fe	-	Manganese as Mn	-
Potassium as K	-	Sodium as Na	-
Heavy metals (copper, lead and zinc)			-
Other Parameters	-		

Bacteriological Examination

220 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination from pumping stations serving the area. Of these only four were reported as having coliforms present and the affected source was free from organisms when resampled.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR. 1973HOUSING

Total number of dwelling-houses and flats in the district	4,845
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Total number of new houses erected during the year:	
---	--

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) By the local authority | None |
| (2) By other local authorities | None |
| (3) By other bodies or persons | 88 |
| (4) Number allocated for replacing houses subject to Demolition Order or otherwise demolished | None |

Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:	
--	--

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 212 |
| (2) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 381 |

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:	
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Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	25
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Action under statutory powers during the year;	
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- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:- | |
|--|--|

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	8
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Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
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(a) By owners	7
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(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil
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- | | |
|--|--|
| (2) Proceedings under the Housing Acts:- | |
|--|--|

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	4
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Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
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(a) By owners	3
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(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil
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Number of certificates of disrepair issued	Nil
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(3) Slum Clearance - proceedings under the Housing Acts:-

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	5
Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	7
Number of dwelling-houses, or parts, subject to Closing Orders	Nil
Number of dwelling-houses, or parts, rendered fit by undertakings	Nil
Number of dwelling-houses included in confirmed Clearance Orders	Nil
Total number of dwelling-houses on which Demolition Orders are operative and to which are still occupied except under the provisions of Section 34, 35 and 46 of the Housing Act, 1957	14
Total number of dwelling-houses occupied under Section 34, 35 and 46 of the Housing Act, 1957	Nil
Houses demolished or closed voluntarily by owners which would otherwise have been the subject of Statutory action to secure demolition or closure	Nil

Nissen Huts or similar hutments

Number still occupied	Nil
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Estimated number of dwellings remaining to be dealt with under:-

(a) The Housing Act, 1957, Sections 16 and 18	246
(b) The Housing Act, 1957, Section 42	Nil

Housing Acts - Overcrowding

Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	Nil
Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1
Number of families dwelling therein	2
Number of persons dwelling therein	13

Housing Act, 1969

Number of dwellings for which applications for grants have been made -

(a) Standard Grant (Section 8)	22
(b) Improvement Grant (Section 2)	104
(c) Special Grants (Section 13)	Nil

Number of dwellings subject to grant -

(a) Standard Grant	21
(b) Improvement Grant	99
(c) Special Grants (including dwellings in improvement areas)	Nil

Number of declared General Improvement Areas None

Moveable Dwellings, Tents, Vans etc.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

Number of site licences	11
Total number of caravans permitted under such licences	727
Number of inspections during the year -	
(a) Sites	44
(b) Caravans	16
Number of contraventions remedied	12
Number of sites exempt from licence	Nil
Number of holiday chalets	24

Public Health Act, 1936

Number of site licences	14
Number of individual licences	12
Number of inspections -	
(a) Sites	9
(b) Dwellings	4
Number of contraventions remedied	2

FOOD PREMISES

Bakehouses:

Number in district	2
Number of inspections made	4
Number of contraventions found	2
Defects remedied	2

Ice Cream:

Number of manufacturers on register	1
Number of premises licensed for the sale of ice cream	42
Number of inspections made	56
Number of contraventions found	4
Number of contraventions remedied	4
Number of samples taken	Nil

Meat Products:

Number of premises registered for the manufacture of meat products	9
Number of inspections made	18
Number of contraventions found	6
Number of contraventions remedied	6

Other Food Premises:

Number of other food premises	89
Number of inspections made	75
Number of contraventions found	4
Number of contraventions remedied	3

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Closets:

Number of houses with pail closets	215
Number of houses with water closets	4,747
Number of water closets substituted for pail closets	6

The Council does not operate a pail closet emptying service

Septic Tanks:

Number of septic tanks emptied, cleansed etc.	141
Number of septic tanks abolished	5
The Council operates a septic tank emptying service	
Number of vehicles in use for emptying septic tanks	1

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal:

Areas or villages where provision has been made of new sewers or where existing sewerage arrangements improved:

Laughton and Northorpe scheme completed. Major schemes for Brampton, Torksey Lock and Torksey in south of district - Sewer laying and works nearing completion.

WATER SUPPLIES

Number of houses supplied from public mains -	
In house	4,926
Standpipe/outside tap	6
Number of houses supplied from private sources -	
In house	4
Not in house	12
Number of houses with unsatisfactory supplies	9
Number of houses supplied therefrom	9

Swimming and Paddling Pools

	<u>Swimming Pools</u>	<u>Paddling Pools</u>
Number in operation	4	1
Number fitted with continuous mechanical filtration and chlorination	2	-

GENERAL

Offensive Trades:

Number of premises in the district	Nil
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Knackers Yard:

Number licensed	1
Number of inspections made	10
Number of contraventions remedied	1

Office, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963:

Number of premises licensed	21
Number of inspections made	22
Number of defects found	1
Number of defects remedied	2

Disinfection and Disinfestation:

Rooms or premises disinfected	-
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(a) Infectious disease other than tuberculosis	None
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(b) Tuberculosis	None
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Number of premises subject to disinfestation	5
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Refuse Collection and Disposal:

Number of premises from which refuse is collected	4,776
Frequency of collection	fortnightly
Type of receptacle used	plastic bin liners

Disposal is by controlled tipping

Number of tips	1
Number of refuse collection vehicles	4
Estimated amount of refuse disposed of during the year on local authority tips -	

Domestic	3,720 tons
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Trade	None
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Number of sites established under the Civic Amenities Act, 1967, Section 18	1
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The Council makes special collection of bulky household refuse which is too large for normal collection on payment.

Details of Nuisances abated:

	<u>After informal intimation</u>	<u>After statutory notice</u>
Refuse	30	-
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water	19	-
Drainage	68	-
Poultry and Animals	25	-
Dangerous Premises	1	-
Miscellaneous Nuisances	3	-
Total:	<u>146</u>	

Rodent Control:

Number of rodent operatives employed	1
Number of premises treated	
(a) Dwelling-houses	241
(b) Other premises	66

There are no serious reservoirs of rats in the district.

The service covers domestic and business premises only.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the local authority	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority	156	82	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers premises) Building Sites	3	8	-	-
TOTAL:	59	90	3	-

Part VIII of the Act

Out-work

Details of out-work (Sections 133 and 134) carried on in the district

Number of out-workers in the district (Section 133)

4

Nature of work - Making wearing apparel etc. (cleaning and washing)

Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises (Section 134)

Nil
